

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)

1911 Williams Dr, Training Room (first floor) · Oxnard, CA 93036

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Monday, September 11, 2023, 1:00 – 2:30PM

BHAB Executive Members Present:

Janis Gardner, Chair

Liz Warren, 1st Vice Chair

Elizabeth R. Stone, 2nd Vice Chair

Michael Rodriguez, Chair Emeritus

Soledad Barragan, Member-at-Large

Guests:

Ratan Bhavnani, NAMI

Ronna Bright, VCSO

Nancy Borchard, BHAB Member

Cece Casey, Community

Priscila Hazrun, Spanish Interpreter

Cynthia Salas Salgado, VCOE

Mark Stadler, CIT

Lorena Suarez, Spanish Interpreter

Scott Walker, VC COSSUP

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Staff Present:

Dr. Loretta Denering, Acting Director

Dr. John Schipper, Adult Services Division Chief

Karen Lee, Quality Sr. Behavioral Health Manager

Andrea Wallace, Assistant to the Director and Assistant Director of VCBH

Jakeline De Leon, Management Assistant / Zoom Engineer

- I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 1:03PM by Chair Janis Gardner. Lorena Suarez and Priscila Hazrun, Spanish Interpreters, introduced themselves and provided instruction on the interpretation services available for the meeting.
- II. **Roll Call to Establish Physical Quorum & Introductions** – Ms. De Leon confirmed a physical quorum through roll call and all members and attendees introduced themselves.
- III. **Roll Call of Members with Just Cause** – NONE.
 - a. **State others present in the room over the age of 18.**
- IV. **Requests for Emergency Circumstances** – NONE.
- V. **Approval of the Agenda** – The Behavioral Health Advisory Board Executive Committee Agenda for September 11, 2023, was approved (Rodriguez/Warren/Passed). It was motioned to approve as written carried by majority vote through roll call.
- VI. **Approval of the August 14, 2023, Minutes** – The Behavioral Health Advisory Board Executive Committee Minutes for August 14, 2023, were approved (Warren/Rodriguez/Passed). It was motioned to approve as written by majority vote through roll call. Second Vice Chair Stone abstained.
- VII. **Chair Comments** – Chair Gardner announced EvalCorp distributed information about their survey to the BHAB assistant and the BHAB assistant distributed it to the BHAB master list in order to provide input to EvalCorp. Anyone who would like the information can contact the BHAB assistant at bhabadmin@ventura.org. The Suicide Prevention conference is Tuesday, September 12th and the “Facing Down Fentanyl” town hall will be September 27th at the Ventura County Office of Education. There is one vacancy open for a BHAB member in Supervisor Gorell’s office, district 2. Lastly, Thousand Oaks opened its first homeless shelter after winning a competitive state grant of \$5.8 million.
- VIII. **Public Comments** – Ms. Salas requested the information from EvalCorp to be sent to her to distribute it to the community.
- IX. **Director’s Updates** – Acting Director Dr. Loretta Denering provided the Ventura County Behavioral Health updates. Tuesday, September 12th is the Suicide Prevention Forum at Oxnard College from 4:30 to 7:30 PM in person

and Gabe Teran will be the keynote speaker. She mentioned legislators are still making many late amendments to various bills will keep the BHAB informed as they are passed and moved to the governor for signature. Dr. Denering will be going to the Board of Supervisors to accept the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funds for \$13.2 million dollars.

- X. Executive Committee Members Comments & Announcements** – Second Vice Chair Stone requested to have “Round Robin”, a new policy, be put in writing. “Round Robin”, means BHAB members are able to make one comment and if time allows, they will circle back to the first speaker, this is to streamline the agenda, ensure the meetings end on time, and give each BHAB member the opportunity to make a comment. Second Vice Chair Stone also suggested having Soledad Barragan co-chair the Disparities Reduction meeting with Genevieve Flores-Haro.

XI. New Business

A. Presentation Requests – Chair Gardner informed members that if anyone has any presentation requests to please send them to bhabadmin@ventura.org and cc the chair, janis@panacea-ent.com with a brief description of the proposed presentation. Ms. De Leon announced upcoming presentations are Substance Use Update from Chief Raena West for the September General meeting, Gold Coast-CalAIM, TAY Tunnel, Stepping Up Initiative, a veteran’s presentation, and EvalCorp in October.

B. Recognition Award Recommendations – Chair Gardner informed members that if anyone has recognition award recommendations to please send them to bhabadmin@ventura.org and cc the chair, janis@panacea-ent.com with a brief description of why the person is worthy of recommendation.

XII. Develop Agenda for Hybrid General Meeting scheduled for September 18, 2023, at 1:00PM

- I. Call to Order*
- II. Quorum Roll Call & Introductions*
- III. Roll Call of Members with Just Cause*
 - a. State others present in the room over the age of 18*
- IV. Requests for Emergency Circumstances – ACTION (Roll Call)*

- V. **Approval of the Agenda – ACTION (Roll Call)**
- VI. **Approval of the August 21, 2023 Minutes – ACTION (Roll Call)**
- VII. **Public Comments (3 min. per speaker)**
- VIII. **Chair Comments (10 min.)**
- IX. **Presentation – Substance Use Update – Raena West, Substance Use Services Division Chief (20 min.)**
- X. **Director’s Report – Dr. Loretta Denering, Acting Director (10 min.)**
- XI. **Board Member Comments and Announcements (3 min. per speaker) (Round Robin)**
- XII. **BHAB Goals and Priorities-Discussion, Janis Gardner, Chair, BHAB Members (10 min)** – Chair Gardner mentioned this item is meant to discuss what the BHAB members want to focus on as a board for next year as well as keep it in line with the strategic plan. Second Vice Chair Stone requested to have the strategic plan be sent to all BHAB. The committee discussed more community engagement.
- XIII. **Site Visit Proposals, In Patient Unit, Mental Health Rehabilitation Center, (MHRC), Janis Gardner, Chair, BHAB Members (5 min.)** – First Vice Chair Warren requested the opportunity to ask BHAB members to join her at the site visit. Chair Gardner went over the procedures for the site visit and Dr. Denering can provide scope of work or contract information on the requested site visits.
- XIV. **Data Notebook Discussion – Janis Gardner, Chair, BHAB Members (5 min.)**
- XV. **BHAB Committee Reports (5 min each)**
 - a. **Adult Services Committee (September 7) – Chris Tejada, Chair**
 - b. **Disparities Reduction Committee (September 5) (September 12) (Canceled) – Marlen Torres, Chair** – This item will be removed from the agenda since the meeting has been canceled.
- XVI. **Old Business**
 - a. **Annual Report Update – Michael Rodriguez** – Mr. Rodriguez is still awaiting reports from committees.
- XVII. **New Business**
 - a. **Presentation Requests**
 - b. **Recognition Award Recommendations**

XVIII. Contracts

XIX. Public Comments (3 min. per speaker)

XX. Adjourn

XIII. Public Comments – NONE.

XIV. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM by Chair Janis Gardner.

Next Meeting Date – October 9, 2023, from 1:00PM – 2:30PM

Behavioral Health Advisory Board EXECUTIVE Meeting Attendance

Members 2023-2024	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Janis Gardner, Chair, District 3	X	X	X									
Liz Warren, 1 st Vice Chair, District 5	X	X	X									
Elizabeth R. Stone, 2 nd Vice Chair, District 2	X	X	X									
Jennifer Morrison, Secretary, District 4	e	X	e									
Soledad Barragan, Member-At-Large, District 5		X	X									
Michael Rodriguez, Chair Emeritus, District 5	e	X	X									

Present = X

District 1: Supervisor LaVere

District 2: Supervisor Gorell

District 3: Supervisor Long

District 4: Supervisor Parvin

District 5: Supervisor Lopez